

October 2021 Report

Key messages

This is a children's crisis: Millions of children are one step away from starvation and facing the threat of famine. Urgent life-saving action is needed NOW to prevent a humanitarian hunger crisis in which hundreds of thousands of children could die. Famine has no place in the 21st century and is entirely preventable.

Conflict, COVID-19 and climate change are now interacting to create new and worsening hunger hotspots and reversing the gains families had made to escape poverty.

Time is running out. If the world stands by and does too little too late, children and their families will be forced to make dangerous survival choices that will have lasting harmful consequences for girls and boys, including preventable death.

Everyone is exhausted by the battle to defeat COVID-19 but in the poorest parts of the world families dealing with the aftershocks of the virus are literally looking for their next meal. People know the value in coming together to defeat the pandemic and now we must urgently stand together with the most vulnerable to help them survive.

World Vision is on the ground in hunger hotspots around the globe, providing life-saving assistance, tackling malnutrition, providing clean water and protecting children from harm. Our response will target 15 million people who face life-threatening starvation.

US \$ 300 million programmes target



World Vision is responding to the impact of hunger globally and aims to reach **15 million** people

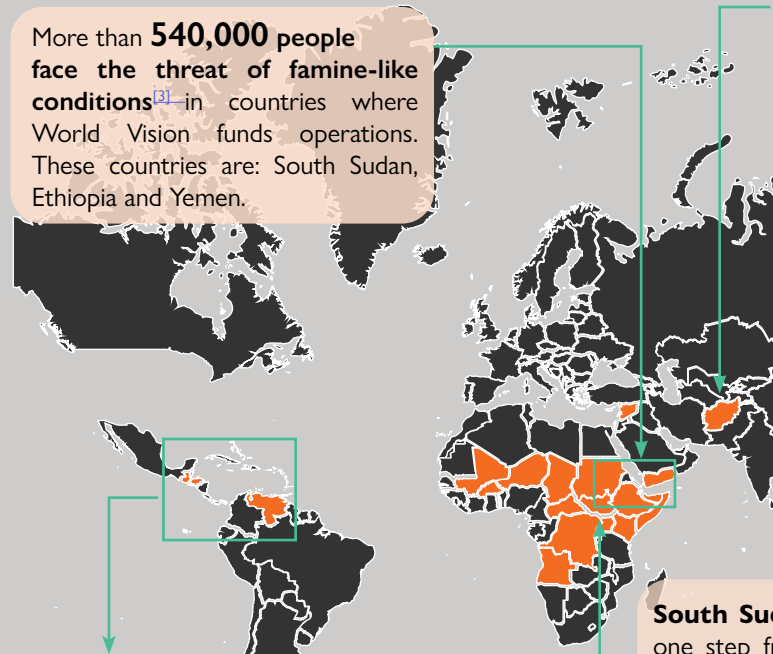


Humanitarian response

45 million people in **43 countries** are on the edge of starvation*.

World Vision is working in **19 countries** where people are suffering unimaginable levels of hunger, to save lives**. We partner with the UN World Food Programme, government, institutional and private donors to respond to urgent need IPC 4, (emergency) and IPC 5 (catastrophic) levels of hunger***.

More than **540,000 people** face the threat of famine-like conditions^[1] in countries where World Vision funds operations. These countries are: South Sudan, Ethiopia and Yemen.



Afghanistan: Following the Taliban take-over the country is facing a massive hunger crisis with more than 8.7m people one step away from starvation (IPC4) ^[1]. One million children could die if they don't get assistance in time. A financial and banking crisis, the withdrawal of international funding and economic collapse are leaving people desperate. The impact of drought combined with months of winter that will cut off villages from help, means food must be urgently pre-positioned. World Vision is distributing food, providing emergency nutrition and running mobile health clinics reaching more than 231,000 people.

Hunger brought about by a range of drivers, including COVID-19, climate change, hurricanes and drought, and economic challenges, are driving increased vulnerability, widespread hunger and migration in Central America and Venezuela.

South Sudan: More than 2.5 million people are one step from starvation (IPC 4&5)^[2]. The crisis has come about due to a mix of reasons, including flooding, conflict, displacement, pest invasions and poor rains during the cropping season. World Vision has been responding with food distributions, school-feeding programmes and working in partnership with WFP on food air drops into remote locations, reaching more than 1.3 million people.

* The 45m is the total number of people facing IPC 4 and 5 levels of hunger: source: [WFP](#)

**The 19 countries include: Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Mali, Niger, Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen, Guatemala, Honduras, Venezuela

*** The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) system is 1) a standardised scale of food insecurity; and 2) a process for building interagency technical consensus on the state of food insecurity in a specific country at a given moment and aims to inform evidence-based decision making. The 5 'phases' of the IPC scale are: Phase 1 (None/Minimal), Phase 2 (Stressed), Phase 3 (Crisis), Phase 4 (Emergency) and Phase 5 (Catastrophe/Famine).

Response achievements

1 Improve access to clean water hygiene and sanitation promotion services to mitigate waterborne diseases



578,705

People reached with access to clean, potable water

2 Improve access to food for affected households



3,530,354

People reached with (in-kind) food assistance

3 Increase access to curative and preventive quality emergency health and nutrition services



234,817

Children reached with supplementary and therapeutic food

4 Improve sustainable livelihoods to support households and communities to multiply resilient food systems



145,425

People reached through provision of livelihood assets

5 Ensure protection for children, women and vulnerable groups, including psychosocial support for girls and women



20,809

People receiving psychosocial support

Achievements to date*

6,748,748

Adults 2,891,268

Children 3,857,480

*Includes people supported in 19 countries globally for the reporting period 01 April - 31 October, 2021

*The impact numbers take into account the risk of double counting.



1,434,214

People reached with cash and voucher assistance



US\$ 39M

Amount of cash and voucher assistance distributed



285,742

Children receiving hot meals and/or dry rations through school feeding



222,515

People reached through primary healthcare support



173,295

Children reached through management of Severe Acute Malnutrition & Moderate Acute Malnutrition

Key concerns^[4]

Conflict: Conflict continues to be the primary driver of an alarming rise of food insecurity and malnutrition, particularly among refugees, internally displaced and the most vulnerable

COVID-19: The pandemic has led to currency depreciation, income losses, rapid inflation, and has exacerbated pre-existing macroeconomic fragilities and debt levels in many countries, increasing the likelihood of macroeconomic crises. To make matters worse, in many low- and middle-income countries widespread COVID-19 vaccination is not expected to be achieved before 2023. The discovery of a new COVID-19 variant - Omicron - is leading to border closures for a number of nations in Southern Africa, and likely to lead to further travel, trade, economic and health impacts that affect the most vulnerable.

Climate change: Forecast below average rainfall seasons and dry conditions are likely to affect agricultural production in Afghanistan, southern Ethiopia, Haiti, Iraq, eastern Kenya, southern Somalia, and Syria.

Data Source: [WFP](#)



Advocacy and external engagement

World Vision has been actively engaging in interagency advocacy efforts to bring greater attention to and action on the global hunger crisis.

World Vision addressed famine prevention advocacy events at the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment in Geneva, Protection of Civilians week at UN Headquarters in New York, and the High Level Event on famine prevention in October 2021 and worked closely with our partners to bring this issue to the UN Food Systems Summit process and the G20.

World Vision launched a campaign centred around the 10th Anniversary of the 2011 Somalia famine and actively contributed to joint agency efforts to influence the G7's Compact on famine prevention and humanitarian crises.


Regional overview

Africa

East Africa Region: Nearly 510,000 people in East Africa are one step away from famine-like conditions. In **South Sudan**, more than 760,000 people have been affected by flooding. Homes, health facilities, water sources, schools and markets have been submerged, affecting people's access to essential services. **Ethiopia** faces worsening conflict, displacement and challenges with humanitarian access that are driving up hunger numbers.

In **Somalia**, 1.2 million children aged under five are projected to be acutely malnourished by the end of the year, with nearly 213,400 severely malnourished. In **Kenya**, pastoral communities have been badly hit by a prolonged drought and the numbers in IPC4 are expected to increase to 368,000 over coming months. In **Uganda**, nearly 28,000 are facing IPC 4 levels of food insecurity and ration cuts are impacting refugees from South Sudan. In **Sudan**, around 1.8 million are critically food insecure (IPC 4). Economic decline, floods and displacements are driving hunger there.

Southern Africa Region: In the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, 27 million people are living with high acute food insecurity (IPC3/4). Of these, more than 6.1 million are projected to be in Emergency IPC 4. About 5 million people are displaced; of these 3 million are children. In **Angola** the drought has had a devastating impact on the food and nutrition security situation, especially in the south but also in Benguela, Kwanza Sul and western Huambo. IPC figures show more than 1.5 million people in the provinces of Cunene, Huila and Namibe experiencing IPC 3 and 4 levels of food insecurity. Projections indicate the number of people in IPC 4 will increase significantly over the next few months.

West Africa Region: Deterioration in security conditions, climate shocks, high food prices, and the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 are impacting nations, including **Burkina Faso**, **Chad**, the **Central African Republic**, **Mali** and **Niger**. Access to food is a major challenge in a region where millions are in need of humanitarian assistance. Forced displacements, drought disasters driven by climate change and political instability are exacerbating pre-existing gender inequalities and worsening protection for women and girls.

Middle East and Eastern Europe

Afghanistan: More than one in two Afghans will be facing crisis (IPC 3) or emergency (IPC 4) levels of acute food insecurity through the November 2021 to March 2022 lean season. Nearly 23 million people will be food insecure (IPC3 or above) and in need of food assistance. Over 8.7 million men, women, girls and boys are one step away from catastrophic IPC 5 hunger conditions.

Approximately 1.3 million men, women, boys and girls in IPC 4 fall within World Vision's operational provinces where staff are racing to get food assistance out to families. Between November 2021 and March 2022 (the winter lean season), a deterioration in food security is expected as villages are cut off by winter snows and families rely on limited to non-existent food stocks to survive.

Syria: World Vision Syria Response has been operating inside Syria, Jordan and Turkey since 2011. World Vision provides lifesaving protection, education, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene), livelihoods and health services to refugees, internally displaced persons and local communities impacted by the ongoing conflict, which is now in its 10th year.

The COVID-19 pandemic, the economic crisis and the lack of accountability for the grave violations against children and civilians have further compounded the situation of Syrian children, their families and host communities. Major donor cuts to funding in Syria have led to significant need gaps in all sectors, particularly food security, health and the provision of WASH services. According to the most recent acute food insecurity assessment, 1.2 million people are facing Emergency (IPC 4) levels of hunger.

Yemen: Yemen rivals Afghanistan for the world's worst humanitarian emergency following six years of war. Import blockades, humanitarian access blockages, COVID-19, price rises and a broken and under-resourced health system are compounding the food crisis. According to the latest IPC analysis, 16.2 million people face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC3 or above). This includes 5 million people in IPC 4. Of greatest concern are the 47,000 people in Catastrophe (IPC5). Yemen's children are also subject to bombing and deadly disease outbreaks of cholera, malaria, and acute respiratory infections.

Latin America and Caribbean

Guatemala: According to WFP, Guatemala is among the 10 countries most vulnerable to natural disasters and the effects of climate change. Over the past three years, extended dry seasons have had a severe impact on the livelihoods of subsistence farmers, who rely on rain-fed agriculture, especially in the Dry Corridor.

Guatemala has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the economic impact on families, especially those who depended on informal labour, has been severe. Families face difficulties getting food and clean water, increasing childhood malnutrition and sickness, and students in rural areas often are not able to continue their studies. On top of the pandemic's challenges, Hurricanes Eta and Iota hit Guatemala in November 2020, destroying crops, homes, and infrastructure.

Honduras: According to the latest IPC assessment, at least 2.9 million people face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC 3 or above) and require urgent action. Of these, over 615,000 people are in Emergency (IPC 4). The main causes of this are the heavy and lingering impacts caused by category 4 Hurricanes Eta and Iota, which destroyed homes and livelihoods, and income losses due to mobility and transport restrictions resulting from COVID-19 pandemic lock-downs.

The country's economy faces instability because it is largely based on food exports, which are directly affected by natural disasters. Honduras is also prone to the effects of climate change. More than two in five rural families live in extreme poverty and do not know where their next meal will come from.

Venezuela: Millions of Venezuelans have fled the country in recent years creating Latin America's largest migration crisis. The country has suffered hyperinflation, violence, and food and medicine shortages stemming from recent years of political turmoil.

World Vision partners with a network of churches inside Venezuela to distribute food assistance and also works in neighbouring nations to support migrants who are on the move or living among host communities.



World Vision's Roving Nutrition Manager for Greater Bahr el Ghazal Zone in South Sudan takes the upper arm measurement of 11-month-old Adhel. World Vision's nutrition project, supported by UNICEF and the World Food Programme, has supported more than 40,000 children in 64 nutrition centres across four counties in Warrap State.

We would like to thank our generous child sponsors, donors, partners, and supporters whose contributions make our work possible, including:



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World Vision is focused on helping the most vulnerable children to overcome poverty and experience fullness of life. We help children of all backgrounds, even in the most dangerous places. Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness. Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.
wvi.org/emergencies